



City of Austin

Will Wynn, Mayor

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The Honorable Lamar Smith
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515-4321

Dear Representative Smith:

I am pleased to submit the City of Austin's FY 2010 request for \$450,000 for an Underground Storage Tank Assessment Project, which was approved unanimously by the Austin City Council as part of the City's Federal Legislative Program for the 111th Congress – 1st Session.

The City of Austin is committed to protecting its two primary sources of drinking water: the Colorado River watershed and the Edwards Aquifer. The human and environmental health of Austin is directly tied to the health of these two natural resources. In recent years, several events have highlighted the threat that underground storage tanks pose to these resources, including a major downtown leak that posed an immediate threat to human health and safety.

The requested federal funds will be used by the City of Austin Watershed Protection & Development Review Department to conduct a citywide assessment of properties with underground storage tanks. The study will determine the condition of those tanks and the threat they pose to the environment, human health and public safety. The City will use the assessment to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to address this issue.

I appreciate your consideration of this request and thank you for your work on Austin's behalf.

Regards,

Will Wynn
Mayor